

Remarks:

Examiner Interview, 07.Oct.2008:

The undersigned thanks Exr. Ark for the courtesy of the personal interview at the USPTO held on 07.Oct.2008, and for the helpful remarks provided by the Examiner. This paper, including the amendments to the claims and the remarks presented therein are believed to be constructive response to the prior *Office Action* and to the *Examiner Interview*.

Regarding the amendments to the claims:

The amendments to the claims presented in this paper are believed to fully address and to overcome the outstanding grounds of rejection presented by the Examiner in the outstanding *Office Action* dated 22 April 2008. Notwithstanding the amendments to the claims presented in this paper, the applicant's expressly reserves their rights to reinstate any canceled subject matter, or to introduce new claims in a divisional or continuation application which may be filed at a future date.

Regarding the rejection of claims 1-19 in view of US 7231738:

The applicant traverses the Examiner's grounds of rejection, is it is believed that the claims presented in this paper are distinguishable over those of US 7231738, which is commonly assigned. Nonetheless, the undersigned transmits with this paper a suitable *Terminal Disclaimer* for entry into the present file wrapper. With the entry of this document, it is believed that the outstanding rejection is overcome.

Regarding the rejection of claims 1-19 under 35 USC 112:

The presently amended claims presented in this paper are believed to address and fully overcome these outstanding grounds of rejection. Accordingly, reconsideration of the propriety of the rejection and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection of claims 1-13, 19 under 35 USC 102 (b) in view of US 6230434 to Knuppel:

In view of the currently presented amended claims, and in light of the remarks presented during the Examiner interview, it is believed that the claims presented in this paper fully address and overcome the instant rejection. Accordingly, reconsideration of the propriety of the rejection and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection of claims 1-13, 17, 19 under 35 USC 102 (b) in view of GB 207057 to Hockey:

In view of the currently presented amended claims, and in light of the remarks presented during the Examiner interview, it is believed that the claims presented in this paper fully address and overcome the present rejection. Accordingly, reconsideration of the propriety of the rejection and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection of claims 13-16 under 35 USC 103(a) in view of US 6230434 to Kness, in view of US 6594182 to Kness or US 1758952 to Kness:

In view of the currently presented amended claims, and in light of the remarks presented during the Examiner interview, it is believed that the claims presented in this paper fully address and overcome the present rejection. Accordingly, reconsideration of the propriety of the rejection and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection of claim 17 under 35 USC 103(a) in view of US 6230434 to Kness, in view of US 6594182 to Kness or US 1758952 to Kness, and further in view of US 1214060 to Mutz or a US 4363183 to Drdlik:

In view of the currently presented amended claims, and in light of the remarks presented during the Examiner interview, it is believed that the claims presented in this paper fully address and overcome the instant rejection. Accordingly, reconsideration of the propriety of the rejection and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection of claim 18 under 35 USC 103(a) in view of US 6230434 to Kness, in view of US 5148624 to Schmidt or US 4569149 to Sensing:

In view of the currently presented amended claims, and in light of the remarks presented during the Examiner interview, it is believed that the claims presented in this paper fully address and overcome the present rejection. Accordingly, reconsideration of the propriety of the rejection and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection of claims 13-16 under 35 USC 103(a) in view of GB 207057 to Hockey in view of US 2594182 to Kness, or US 1758952 to Kness:

In view of the currently presented amended claims, and in light of the remarks presented during the Examiner interview, it is believed that the claims presented in this paper fully address and overcome the instant rejection. Accordingly, reconsideration of the propriety of the rejection and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection of claim 17 under 35 USC 103(a) in view of GB 207057 to Hockey in view of US 2594182 to Kness, or US 1758952 to Kness further in view of US 1214060 to Mutz or a US 4363183 to Drdlik:

In view of the currently presented amended claims, and in light of the remarks presented during the Examiner interview, it is believed that the claims presented in this paper fully address and overcome the instant rejection. Accordingly, reconsideration of the propriety of the rejection and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection of claim 18 under 35 USC 103(a) in view of GB 207057 to Hockey, in view of US 5148624 to Schmidt or US 4569149 to Sensing:

In view of the currently presented amended claims, and in light of the remarks presented during the Examiner interview, it is believed that the claims presented in this paper fully address and overcome the instant rejection. Accordingly, reconsideration of the propriety of the rejection and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

The applicant points out that it is well established that the drawings of an application may provide ample support for the claimed invention. See Ex parte Holt 19 USPQ2d 1211 (PTO Bd, 1991); *Vas-Cath v. Mahurkar* 19 USPQ2d 1111 (CAFC, 1991)

Should the Examiner in charge of this application believe that telephonic communication with the undersigned representative would meaningfully advance the prosecution of this application towards allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at their convenience.

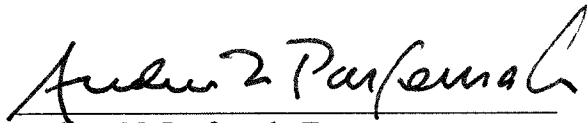
PETITION FOR A THREE-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME

The applicants respectfully petition for a three-month extension of time in order to permit for the timely entry of this response. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263 with respect to this petition.

CONDITIONAL AUTHORIZATION FOR FEES

Should any further fee be required by the Commissioner in order to permit the timely entry of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

Respectfully Submitted;



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14 October 2008
Date:

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Enclosure – *Terminal Disclaimer*